

REMARKS

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

In response to an oral restriction requirement on January 9, 2004, Applicant elected Group I, claims 1-38 and accordingly has cancelled claims 39-45 in the present response.

Applicant has amended independent claims 31 and 35 to clarify that the vector representations originally claimed are in a semantic space. Independent claims 1 and 20 have been amended to add the limitation of vector representations in a semantic space. Various dependent claims have been amended to correspond to the independent claims. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Objections

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 4, 14, 15 and 34 as containing informalities. Applicant has corrected the informalities and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection. Applicant further respectfully submits that no new issues are raised by the corrections.

Rejections

Rejection for Double Patenting

Claims 1-38

Claims 1-38 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,208,971 in light of U.S. Patent No. 5,860,063 to Gorin. Because certain of the claims also stand rejected over Gorin under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103, Applicant will submit a terminal disclaimer upon notification that the §102/103 rejections have been withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-6, 20-24, 31, 32, 35 and 36

Claims 1-6, 20-24, 31, 32, 35 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gorin. Applicant respectfully submits that Gorin does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 1-6, 20-24, 31, 32, 35 and 36.

Gorin discloses recognizing input speech by comparing the input speech with pre-determined meaningful phase clusters. The Examiner asserts that Gorin discloses Applicant's claimed vector representations of a processed sequence of words in Figures 6 and 7. However, Gorin discloses that Figures 6 and 7 represent state diagrams for a Finite State Machine (FSM) that converts test or training data into the pre-determined meaningful phase clusters. Figures 6 and 7 represent decision points within the FSM as nodes and the choices at the decision points as arrows between the nodes. Thus, an arrow in Figures 6 and 7 is not equivalent to a vector representation of a processed sequence of words in a semantic space as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claims in claims 1-6, 20-24, 31, 32, 35 and 36 is not anticipated by Gorin under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 7-19, 25-30, 33, 34, 37 and 38

Claims 7-19, 25-30, 33, 34, 37 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gorin in light of Official Notice of various claimed elements that are not taught or suggested by Gorin. Applicant respectfully objects to the assertion of Official Notice with respect to claims 7-10, 13-19, 25-28, 33, 34, 37 and 38, and requests the Examiner cite references in support of his position if the § 103 rejection of these claims is maintained. Furthermore, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to claims 7-19, 25-30, 33, 34, 37 and 38 because they each depend from one of independent claims 1, 20, 31 and 35. Because neither Gorin nor the asserted Official Notice teach or suggest a vector representation in semantic space as claimed in claims 1, 20, 31 and 35, claims 7-19, 25-30, 33, 34, 37 and 38 are not render

obvious by Gorin. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-19, 25-30, 33, 34, 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

SUMMARY

Claims 1-38 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-3476.

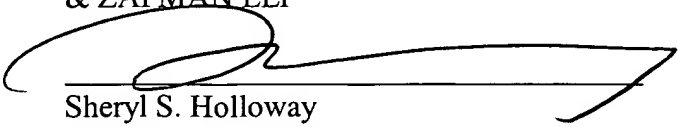
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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